

Declassified per Executive Order 12958, Section 3.5  
NND Project Number: NND 775057 By: NND Date: 1977

Claim: [Austria] - Kauffmann, Maurice E.

[4 pp.]

13/1/49

OFFICE OF MILITARY GOVERNMENT FOR BAVARIA  
PROPERTY DIVISION  
RESTITUTION BRANCH MFA&A SECTION  
MUNICH GERMANY APO 407-A US ARMY DP/bk

AG-007-MGBPR/B

23 December 1948

SUBJECT : Claim for a collection of rare books of Mr. Maurice E Kaufmann

TO : Office of Military Government for Greater Hesse, Property Division, Restitution Branch, Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Section, APO 633, US Army

1. Attached herewith is a claim for a collection of rare books, belonging to Mr. Maurice E Kaufmann, an American Citizen.

2. It is requested that a check be made at the Offenbach Archival Depot, whether any of the listed books can be located there. None of them could be found at the Central Collecting Point, Munich.

FOR THE LAND DIRECTOR:

*stefan p. munsing*

STEFAN P MUNSING  
Chief, Monuments, Fine  
Arts and Archives Section  
Restitution Branch

1 Incl.  
1 claim

Tel: Munich Military 4-398  
Munich Civil 32404

1. Belegzettel bz. Name u. Emil Kaufmann nicht vorhanden.

2. Tel nicht vorhanden

*H. G.*

*Claim Kaufmann USA*

COPY

Maurice E.Kaufmann  
857 West 54th Street  
Los Angeles 37, Calif.

September 16, 1948

To the Office of Military Government of Bavaria  
Economic Division, Restitution Branch,  
Central Collecting Point, A. P. O. 407 c/o Re: Books sei-  
zed by the  
Postmaster New York, N.Y., Gestapo

Gentlemen:

May I ask for your kind assistance regarding a collection of Rare books. They were common property of my brother Dr. Emil Kaufmann and myself and were left in the custody of the rare book dealer Felix Grafe and his wife Elizabeth, both Vienna, Neudeggergasse 7 when we emigrated in 1940. The collection was seized by the Gesztapo, Vienna in or about 1942 at the time when Felix Grafe was indicted, tried by the Volksgerichtshof and executed for his Anti-Nazi activities. Elizabeth Grafe passed on to me a rather vague information given to her by the Gestapo that the books were sent to a place somewhere in Germany. As a matter of fact, neither the Austrian "Ministerium für Vermögenssicherung und Wirtschaftsplanung" nor the National Library ( Nationalbibliothek ) nor the "Dorotheum" Vienna, were able to decate the books. From the list given below it will be seen that the books were very early prints, item No 1, Waldseemueller, a precious incunabulum, worth about \$ 1.100 and the total value of the set may amount to \$ 2.000 or \$ 2.500.

My brother and I are citizens of the U.S.A. and residents there in since 1940.

I wish to thank you for everything you will able to do in our behalf.

Yours sincerely

Unterschrift: Maurice Kaufmann

Books of Dr. Maurice and Dr. Emil Kaufmann:

- 1.) Waldseemueller, Martin (Hylacomylus), and Ringmann, Philesius "Instructio---in cartam itinerarium Martini Hilacomili...cum. enarratione a Ringmanno Philesio conscripta." Argentotari (Strassburg) Grueninger, 1511. (J. Sabin, Bibliotheca Americana, vol. XXVII, Nr. 101025).
- 2.) "schmid, Johannes." "Summa Strologiae." Ed. Sanritter, Venedig 1489
- 3.) Balthasar de Porta. "Conclusiones contra ... Bohemorum errores." Ed. Boettiger, Leipzig.
- 4.) "Objectiones in dicta Thalmut." Ed. Winterburger, Wien.
- 5.) Wimpelius, Jacob. "Adolexcentia" Ed. Flach, Strassburg, 1500

Yuel

Maurice Kaufmann USA

- 2 -

- 6.) Samuel Rabbi. "Epistola contra Judaorum errores." Ed. Hochfeder, Metz, 1498 (?)
- 7.) Camoccio, Gianfranco, "Isole famose" Libr. del Segno di San Marco. (L571) Parchmentbound.
- 8.) Ravenscroft E. "Titus Andronicus" Altered from ...Shakespeare. Hindmarsh (London) 1687 (?). Green morocco leather.
- 9.) Marcello Benedetto, "Il Teatro alla moda" Ed. Aldiviva Licante, Venice 1722, Parchmentbound.
- 10.) Hepplewhite & Co. "Cabinetmaker".
- 11.) Lactantius

Unfortunately we have no notes regarding 10.) and 11.) They were bought just before leaving.

gez. Maurice Kaufmann

Gim Kaufmann USA